L. Preston Bryant, Jr. Secretary of Natural Resources



Joseph H Maroon Director

## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

217 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219-2010
(804) 786-7951 FAX (804) 371-2674

December 11, 2008

Roy Clark William H. Gordon Associates, Inc. 44084 Riverside Pkwy, Suite 100 Leesburg, VA 20176

Re: Dulles Industrial Park South

Dear Mr. Clark:

The Department of Conservation and Recreation's Division of Natural Heritage (DCR) has searched its Biotics Data System for occurrences of natural heritage resources from the area outlined on the submitted map. Natural heritage resources are defined as the habitat of rare, threatened, or endangered plant and animal species, unique or exemplary natural communities, and significant geologic formations.

According to the information currently in our files, the Cub Run Stream Conservation Unit has been documented downstream of the project site. Stream Conservation Units (SCUs) identify stream reaches that contain aquatic natural heritage resources, including 2 miles upstream and 1 mile downstream of documented occurrences, and all tributaries within this reach. Stream Conservation Units are also given a biodiversity significance ranking based on the rarity, quality, and number of element occurrences they contain. Brank is a rating of the significance of the site based on presence and number of natural heritage resources; on a scale of 1-5, 1 being most significant. This site has been ranked as a B3 conservation site, which indicates it is of high significance. The natural heritage resource of concern associated with this conservation site located downstream of the project area is:

Glyptemys insculpta

Wood turtle

G4/S2/NL/LT

The wood turtle inhabits forested floodplains and nearby fields, wet meadows, and farmlands (Mitchell, 1994). As this species overwinters on the bottoms of creeks and streams, a primary habitat requirement is the presence of water (Mitchell, 1994). Please note that the wood turtle is classified as threatened by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF).

In addition, Cub Run has been designated by VDGIF as a Threatened and Endangered Waters for the Wood turtle.

To minimize adverse impacts to the aquatic ecosystem as a result of the proposed activities, DCR recommends the implementation of and strict adherence to applicable state and local erosion and sediment control/storm water management laws and regulations. Due to the legal status of the Wood turtle, DCR recommends coordination with VDGIF to ensure compliance with protected species legislation.

Our files also do not indicate the presence of any State Natural Area Preserves under DCR's jurisdiction in the project vicinity.

Under a Memorandum of Agreement established between the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) and the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), DCR represents VDACS in comments regarding potential impacts on state-listed threatened and endangered plant and insect species. The current activity will not affect any documented state-listed plants or insects.

New and updated information is continually added to Biotics. Please contact DCR for an update on this natural heritage information if a significant amount of time passes before it is utilized.

A fee of \$425.00 has been assessed for the service of providing this information. Please find enclosed an invoice for that amount. Please return one copy of the invoice along with your remittance made payable to the Treasurer of Virginia, Department of Conservation and Recreation, 217 Governor Street, Richmond, VA 23219. Payment is due within thirty days of the invoice date. Please note late payment may result in the suspension of project review service for future projects.

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries maintains a database of wildlife locations, including threatened and endangered species, trout streams, and anadromous fish waters, that may contain information not documented in this letter. Their database may be accessed from <a href="http://vafwis.org/fwis/">http://vafwis.org/fwis/</a> or contact Shirl Dressler at (804) 367-6913.

Should you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at 804-371-2708. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project.

Sincerely,

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Project Review Coordinator

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CC: Ernie Aschenbach, VDGIF